

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 20, as follows:

Methods for efficient setup for virtual circuits (VCs) with a guaranteed worst case bound and without dependence on a global network address space like IP, is described in copending U.S. patent [[application, Ser. No. _____]] 6,802,068, entitled "Addressless Internetworking", filed July 1999, herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. The method exploits a hierarchical name service resembling the Domain Name Service (DNS), but are constructed in a way that makes it simultaneously a spanning tree and allows control routing by interpreting names as addresses. It is expected that existing routing protocols, including those presently used in the Internet, can be adapted to exploit the name service for obtaining unique switch (router) identifiers for use in computing optimal routes. The switch state volume is then an important remaining problem to be solved for scalability to the Internet scale.